

Jomsky, Mark

From: Paul Little [paul@pasadena-chamber.org]
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2008 1:50 PM
To: Madison, Steve
Cc: City_Council; Rodriguez, Jane; Jomsky, Mark; 'Steve Mulheim'; 'Erlinda Romo'; gina@southlakeavenue.org
Subject: Revisions to the smoking ordinance

Good afternoon Steve,

Thank you for reaching out to the Chamber of Commerce to inquire about our awareness of the proposed changes to the City of Pasadena's smoking ordinance.

I was made aware of potential revisions by Dr. Wada some time ago, and provided some input to him at that time.

Briefly, our concerns at that time centered around options available for smokers should additional areas become off limits to smoking. Our members who are office managers, for example, were supportive of extending the ban on smoking to building entryways, but also wanted to be sure that they had the opportunity to provide a legal and legitimate place for smokers to partake. Absent that option, to use a courtyard area, for example, there were concerns that the additional ban would only force smokers to find places to smoke that could more negatively impact the safety, operation and health of a building environment.

I appreciated Dr. Wada taking the time to fill me in on the details. At that time I did suggest that additional outreach may be prudent, especially to those most affected. I have heard recently that representatives of the downtown business districts were not made aware of the suggested changes to the ordinance. Given that, I would agree with your suggestion that it seems prudent for the City to ask that such outreach be performed with affected businesses prior to advancing the revisions to the City Council.

With that in mind, I would be very supportive of your suggesting that the Public Safety Committee ask staff to go back to the business improvement districts, movie and theater operators, restaurateurs and shopping center operators to inform them of the proposed revisions and to seek their input into the changes.

Thank you again for taking the time to call for the Chamber's position.

Paul

Paul Little
CEO and President
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
626-795-3355

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04/07/2008

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April 2, 2008

The Honorable Mayor Bill Bogaard
Pasadena City Council
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Mayor Bogaard:

On behalf of the American Cancer Society, which is a nationwide community-based health organization, we whole-heartedly express our enthusiastic support to the prohibition of smoking in outdoor public spaces. We join with the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Pasadena, which was founded in 1949 in support of this important issue and urge you to do the same. For almost 50 years, the Council has been dedicated to helping individuals and families suffering from the devastating effects of alcoholism and drug dependence through education, prevention, and intervention.

One of the greatest problems we have encountered over the years, is the exposure of secondhand outdoor smoke in public places. Secondhand smoke causes 53,000 deaths each year in the US, of which 4,700 occur in California.

We urge the Pasadena City Council to adopt policies to prohibit smoking in outdoor public spaces to further reduce the public's exposure to secondhand smoke. Such an ordinance would also play an important role reducing role-modeling behavior among youth and eliminate social norms about tobacco use.

We appreciate your support and adoption on these much needed tobacco control policies. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 626-795-7774, Option 3 x235.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah Lewis".

Leah Lewis, MSA
Director, Community

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The Ross Financial Group

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Executive Director
Claudia Bonilla Ketter

April 7, 2008

Hon. Bill Bogaard
Mayor
City of Pasadena
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Western States Affiliate
Los Angeles County Division
816 So. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, California 90017
Tel 213 291 7000
Fax 213 291 7001
www.americanheart.org

RE: SUPPORT FOR "NO SMOKING IN CERTAIN OUTDOOR PUBLIC PLACES" ORDINANCE

Hon. Mayor Bogaard:

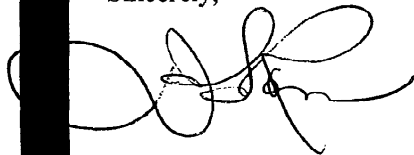
On behalf of the Los Angeles County Division of the American Heart Association, I am writing to express our strong support for restricting smoking in "certain" outdoor areas in the City of Pasadena.

As Chair of the American Heart Association, I commend the City of Pasadena for being proactive in exploring ways to implement strong tobacco control policies. In particular, I am writing to express our organization's support for the recommendation to amend the City's municipal code to prohibit smoking in outdoor malls, shopping areas/centers, outdoor dining areas, public service waiting lines (e.g. movie theater lines, ATM lines, bus stops), and public outdoor gathering events/special events/parades/fairs. We also support the recommendation to prohibit smoking within 20 feet of business entrances/exits.

We applaud the Pasadena City Council for the many steps that have already been taken to protect residents and visitors from second-hand smoke. Your efforts to ban smoking in several outdoor areas within the City will not only save lives, but also encourage healthy role modeling for our youth. Almost 50,000 California kids become new smokers each year and this ordinance will help reverse this trend.

The American Heart Association is dedicated to supporting state and local action to protect the public from the dire effects of tobacco, and we look forward to working with you and the City Council as you continue to examine and implement policies that safeguard Pasadena residents and visitors from second-hand smoke.

Sincerely,



David L. Ross
Chair, American Heart Association



Executive Committee

Alisha Lopez

Chair

Marlene Gomez

Vice-Chair

Narinder Dhaliwal

Member at Large

Ivonne Zaldivar

Member at Large

April 4, 2008

The Honorable Mayor Bill Bogaard
Pasadena City Council
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Mayor Bogaard:

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Los Angeles County represents over 70 agencies and individuals that are dedicated to the fight against tobacco. It is the Coalition's mission to empower and mobilize communities to reduce tobacco-related death and disease throughout Los Angeles County.

The Coalition recognizes the dangers of secondhand smoke exposure and encourages cities to protect citizens by adopting policies that limit smoking in outdoor public places. Exposure to secondhand smoke is the third leading preventable cause of death in the United States and is estimated to kill 65,000 non-smoking Americans each year. The 2006 Surgeon General's Report concluded that there is no risk free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

In Los Angeles County alone, 28 cities have enacted outdoor air regulations to protect citizens from exposure to second hand smoke. We encourage the Pasadena City Council to adopt a policy that will prohibit smoking in outdoor public places to further reduce exposure to harmful secondhand smoke. Such a policy would also play an important role in reducing smoking modeled behavior among youth and elimination of the social norms around smoking.

We appreciate your support and consideration of the adoption of these much needed tobacco control policies. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (818) 301-6311.

Sincerely,

Alisha Lopez

Chair

Coalition for a Tobacco Free Los Angeles County